Sept. 3: Hamilton mayor should speak on Swoop and other letters to the editor

The Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

August 30, 2019 Friday

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Section: OPINION; Pg. 0

Length: 835 words

Body

Mayor should speak on Swoop woes

Swoop cancellations

It's time for Mayor Fred Eisenberger to address the situation of more cancelled flights and stranded passengers coming in and out of Hamilton Airport. After all it was him standing there cutting the ribbon on this totally unreliable airline.

The problems with Swoop have become a monthly debacle now and passengers are becoming more and more afraid to book flights with them. People have been waiting months for compensation when Swoop customer service is nowhere to be seen.

I have been booking flights from Hamilton for years, everything was going along smoothly, now it's a gamble. Swoop has copied and pasted the exact same excuse right from the start of these service disruptions while passengers are told to wait hours on the phone or on messenger for any info.

What is the city doing to bring back a reputable carrier so people will feel comfortable again booking flights in and out of Hamilton airport?

Red Taylor, Hamilton

Hosting games won't benefit climate

Climate change

The General Issues Committee of Hamilton City Council recently heard from two delegations. The first was a heads up from a group starting to put together a bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games. The other was from Hamilton 350 critical of three decisions that seemed to run counter to Hamilton's declaration of a climate emergency.

2030 is a date both delegations have in common. 2030 is the time by which science has said we need to halve our greenhouse gas emissions. How will Hamilton hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games get us there? Air travel of participants will be a significant source of emissions. Concrete is a big source of them as well so will venue expansion be a consideration? Was it a consideration when rebuilding the football stadium in time for the Pan Am Games?

When the Apollo 13 mission malfunctioned theirs was a stark choice. Prioritize what was essential. Sacrifice what was not. Plan carefully how remaining resources could be implemented. Or not make it home.

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We're in the same boat. Being in a climate emergency means we need to start thinking about what is essential. Will the benefits of a Commonwealth Games here or anywhere outweigh the unstated negative impacts? Woodstock 50 was cancelled days away from when it was supposed to happen. We have time to really look at a decision about something more than a decade from now.

Richard MacKinnon, Hamilton

How about some brighter clothes at night?

Dwindling daylight

So, we're approaching the end of the season and the sun is going down earlier. There is still quite a bit of mild weather to be had to enjoy a pleasant walk with your loved one, a stroll with your dog or out for an after-dinner jog. With that having been said and for everyone's safety, do you think you could wear some brighter, reflective clothing? A light for your dog leash/collar? Even something as simple as a neon armband or carrying a small flashlight. Something that lets drivers and cyclists know that you are there?

I've always wished clothing manufacturers could somehow incorporate some sort of fashion aware reflective stitching or accents in their products - especially in children's clothing.

Tim Mahoney, Hamilton

Trump should just buy China

Trump presidency

Instead of arguing, staging trade wars and adding tariffs, why doesn't Mr. Trump simply buy China. Lots of upside there ... also heard North Korea is for sale.

Rusty Escott, Dunnville

Letter to Ontario education minister

Ford government

Minister Lecce:

I am writing this open letter to ask you to share with the public the results of your class-size consultation process that was conducted over the previous school year. Thousands of Ontarians gave up their time and shared their opinions and knowledge with you to better inform your ministry's decisions regarding class size. There is no good reason for that information to be privileged and many good reasons to release it. Failure to release it seems clearly partisan, since if it supported your government's recent actions to raise secondary class sizes, it would have been splashed across the front page of any newspaper willing to print it.

My child in Grade 11 has lost several excellent teachers and two courses this year as a result of the changes made to secondary education. My family deserves answers to concerns that have already negatively impacted us, as does every family in Ontario.

Erin Sewell, Hamilton

The best times of summer

The best weeks of the summer (Aug. 24)

I too can relate to Mr. Benedetti's column. Every summer as a kid growing up, I waited anxiously for August to arrive when we would spend one week up at our beloved Sauble Beach. Every year we waited to see what colourful cottage with a unique name would be ours to enjoy. I joyfully remember the warm days of beach time and the cool,

snuggly nights in my flannelette pj's. As I became older there would be dances down at the Pavilion and meeting boys. Thanks Paul for bringing it all back, those were the best of times.

Linda C Arnold, Stoney Creek

Load-Date: September 3, 2019

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